

What is Claimed is:

Sub A1  
1. In a prosthesis including a shell, and a liner which is received by said shell, the improvement comprising a seal between said shell and liner to restrict migration of foreign material between said liner and shell.

Sub B2  
2. The prosthesis of Claim 1 wherein said prosthesis is load bearing, said liner being formed to substantially conform to and contact said shell under load bearing conditions, and said seal being positioned to maintain its sealing engagement between said liner and shell under load bearing conditions.

3. The prosthesis of Claim 2 wherein said seal includes at least one ridge of resilient material so that load bearing contact between said liner and said shell brings said ridge into sealing engagement therebetween.

4. The prosthesis of Claim 3 wherein said at least one ridge is formed as part of said liner.

Sub A2  
5. The prosthesis of Claim 4 wherein said shell includes a surface for receiving said at least one ridge.

6. The prosthesis of Claim 5 wherein each of said at least one ridges is an annulus integrally formed on said liner, and said surface is sized and spaced to receive all of said at least one ridges, said seal thereby restricting migration of foreign material from outside of said shell/liner interface to the interior of said shell/liner interface.

7. The prosthesis of Claim 5 wherein said shell includes at least one opening and said seal surrounds said at least one openings to thereby prevent foreign material from passing therethrough.

8. The prosthesis of Claim 1 further comprising a plurality of peripheral tabs on one of said liner or shell, and a plurality of peripheral notches on the other of said liner or shell, said tabs and notches being

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5 located to engage as said liner is inserted in said shell.

9. The prosthesis of Claim 8 wherein said tabs and notches are sized to interference fit as they engage.

10. The prosthesis of Claim 9 wherein said notches include protruding lips to grasp said tabs as they engage.

11. The prosthesis of Claim 1 further comprising an interlock between said liner and said shell, said interlock being located to engage as said liner reaches its desired location in said shell.

12. The prosthesis of Claim 11 wherein said interlock includes an interlock ridge on one of said liner or shell, and an interlock groove on the other of said liner or shell, said interlock ridge and interlock groove being sized and located to engage as said liner is inserted fully into said shell and bottoms therein.

13. An acetabular component including a generally hemispherically shaped shell and a generally hemispherically shaped liner for being received in said shell, and a seal between said liner and shell for restricting migration of foreign material between said liner and said shell.

14. The acetabular component of Claim 13 wherein said liner is shaped to seat along substantially its entirety within said shell, said seal maintaining sealing engagement between said liner and shell as said liner seats in said shell.

15. The acetabular component of Claim 14 wherein said seal includes a plurality of annular shaped ridges formed on said liner and said shell includes an inner surface upon against said ridges rest as said liner seats in said shell to thereby sealingly engage said liner to said shell.

Add B'